

The Colored American

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Subscriptions may be sent by postoffice money order, express or by registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact, all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send or instructions.

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THE COLORED AMERICAN,
EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.

THE COLORED AMERICAN FOR ONE DOLLAR.

This week many of our subscribers and friends will receive the pleasant announcement that for fifteen days from date, The Colored American can be had for the small sum of one dollar—one half the usual price. Every person who takes advantage of this remarkable offer, helps himself and helps us. Let us all rally friends, and place The Colored American in every home in this broad land. There is no reason why it should not be there, and there is every reason why it should be.

The race journal is not a luxury. It is a weapon of defense, a medium of instruction, and a vehicle for business communication. It presents the issues of the hour as they appeal to us and moulds public sentiment in our favor more strongly than any other force. It sustains the efforts of the pulpit and the bar, and supplements the work of the school. It is a compendium of Negro history, and stirs race pride, inculcates race unity, and urges race co-operation for the general good. The Colored American meets the popular demand. It contains just what the people want and ought to have. We are giving you an opportunity to get it at the lowest of rates—one dollar per year.

This year The Colored American will be better than ever. Its present features will be brightened and improved, and new ones constantly added. For fifteen days it will be cheaper, but only in temporary price. At the expiration of that time, the old rate of \$2.00 per year, will be restored. In order to give old friends an equal chance with the new in this bonanza, subscribers in arrears, may pay the old bill at the one dollar rate, if paid within those fifteen days. Don't wait, for time flies. Write at once, with your order and that of as many others as possible.

Whether this is the end of 19th or the beginning of the 20th century is a question in the minds of some, but we think all agree without debate, that now is the time to subscribe for the

race's greatest advocate—The Colored American.

It is the people's opportunity.

The fellows who are getting jobs at the federal trough nowadays, are in excellent condition to see the evidences of prosperity offered by the new year.

A MERITED RECOGNITION.

Mr. R. W. Thompson's appointment in the Census Bureau is a most deserving one. There are but few young men in this community who have the rare ability possessed by Mr. Thompson, or who have been identified so closely with the City of Washington. The "powers" are doing themselves credit in recognizing the young men of ability hereabouts.—Daily Record.

The Colored American takes great pleasure in indorsing the liberal and kindly sentiments expressed by our esteemed contemporary toward a valued member of our staff. The Colored American merely wishes to modestly observe that it always picks the best timber available, for the pace we set is a sharp one. We congratulate Mr. Thompson, and bespeak for him much success. We are also pleased to announce that his relations with The Colored American remain unchanged.

Through a typographical error, the wording under the "cut" of Dr. J. E. Rankin, in our last week's issue, was misleading, and gave an impression far from the editor's meaning. Instead of the apparent statement "Can be made to go," the question "Can he be made to go?" was intended.

"WHO WILL GO TO HEAVEN."

In another column of this issue The Colored American names a large list of people "For whom there'll be no room in heaven." We believe every word of those descriptions, and if you just study a moment, you can put your finger on an individual of your acquaintance who will tally perfectly with some one of the classes enumerated in our feature. The matter was prepared by our high-salaried "funny" man, but we don't see much joke about it—its too true to life, and the memory of how we have been "done" by some of the characters portrayed, stirs up a feeling that is far from blissful. Anyhow, dear reader, the column will repay perusal, and if any of the "shoes" happen to fit your feet, don't accuse us of having had you in mind at the time the paragraph was written. We meant "the other fellow" of the same kind as yourself. If all our indictments stick, the question arises, "Who indeed will get to heaven?"

Indiana made no mistake when she sent Albert J. Beveridge to the United States Senate. His maiden speech on the Philippine question was a masterpiece. Mr. Beveridge is a young man, but he can hold his own with the best of them.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY AND ITS OFFICERS.

We print in another portion of this issue a letter from the pen of Professor William H. H. Hart, in which he makes a ringing defense of Howard University and its President, Dr. J. E. Rankin. Prof. Hart is one of the ablest law instructors, broadest-gauged philanthropists and most useful citizens we have among us, and it is with infinite regret that he has seen fit to take issue with The Colored American where no issue has been drawn. We should dislike to part company so estimable a gentleman as Prof. Hart upon any question, and most of all to lose so good a customer and friend through what seems to be a misapprehension of

our position with reference to Howard University.

The cause of the trouble arises from the publication in last week's paper of a letter signed "An Alumnus," calling attention to some alleged abuses in the management of Howard, and charging discrimination and favoritism on the part of President Rankin. The letter was reprinted from the Washington Times, and duly credited to that sheet.

To proceed intelligently, one or two things should be understood in this connection. The Colored American is a newspaper. Its function is to report facts or occurrences as they exist or happened. A news report or communication is one thing, and an editorial expression is another. It has always been our policy to accord to all sides a fair and impartial hearing, to the end that the truth may be brought out and justice established. Anything short of this is a departure from the true purpose of journalism. The letter in question was a signed communication. It was published in a paper not read by colored people outside of Washington. Allegations were made which demanded authoritative contradiction or investigation. As a matter of news we gave the article space, presuming that the persons in interest would understand the unvariable rule of journalism—that no publisher assumes responsibility for the opinions of his contributors, reserving the editorial page for the expression of his own views. The press, to be effective, must be a free forum, and every cause should be fully heard. The facts in hand, the people can be trusted to decide.

It is but fair to ourselves to say the article signed, "An Alumnus" did not represent our views on the management of Howard University, but the publication had the effect we desired. It rallied the friends of the school, and so stirred those who know Dr. Rankin's virtues, that should such statements be made again soon, the person responsible therefor is apt to be compelled to defend himself in an action at law. We are a friend to Howard University and an ardent admirer of Dr. Rankin. The school is the most widely known institution in the country for the higher education of the Negro youth. Dr. Rankin is a Christian gentleman, a scholar and humanitarian. He has from the beginning of our citizenship, given of his time and means to aid in the uplifting and broadening out of the Negro people, and accepting at a personal sacrifice the headship of Howard at a time when it was run down and almost in the throes of dissolution, he has erected an institution that shall stand forever as a monument to his sterling character, executive skill and liberal methods. The Negro is not naturally ungrateful, and in this instance it ought not to be truthfully said that we are willing to sting the hand of a noble white man, whose heart has ever been loyal to our cause.

The beneficial influence of Howard University is not confined to Washington nor to the United States. Go where you will—North, East, South or West, to Africa, to the islands of the sea—and you will find emblazoned upon the walls of the best and most prosperous citizens, a diploma of some kind, granted by Howard. Her graduates have gone out to the corners of the earth, and spread the glory of their alma mater in law, medicine, pharmacy, theology and the classics. Grandly are they sustaining the mission of this well-managed and well-equipped school

and through Dr. Rankin's counsel and constant encouragement a larger number have made their way in the world, than can be recorded of any other administration. The race should stand by and hold up the hands of such men as President Rankin. Great results, visible to the dull eye, and intelligible to the densest mind, give the lie to the complaints and charges of the malicious and the disgruntled. Personal grievances should be as chaff before the wind when vital educational interests—our higher culture, our moral development, our plan—are at stake.

All of Howard's departments are prospering, and all of her branches are in good hands. The faculty is a capable and conscientious body. Freedmen's Hospital, representing the medical, dental and pharmaceutical branch, is admirably controlled by colored men and women and in the other departments competent colored instructors are numerous engaged. The relations between President Rankin and his staff are of the most cordial character. Spasmodic attacks like that of an "An Alumnus" come at intervals. Their inherent weakness and their want of substantial ground are so apparent to the thoughtful, that after each assault the institution and Dr. Rankin are left stronger than ever in the affections of the masses.

The Colored American's publication of the "Alumnus" article did just what we wanted it to do. The factions have "lined up" and the advantage is in favor of Howard. Prof. Hart's rejoinder sounds a keynote, and performs an invaluable service to the race. In behalf of the school he very properly assumes the aggressive. The friends of Howard University, when counted, in number will seem as the leaves of Valambrosa.

The Colored American is pleased to record itself as one of that conquering host.

AN OPINION FROM NEW MEXICO.

The Colored American, Dear Sir—You will inclosed please find post office for \$2.00 for which you will credit to my account as subscriber to your newsy race advocate and champion. You came this week in a bran new dress (a la magazine) giving conclusive evidence that you are an expansionist along race journalism, as a glance at your leading editorial will confirm my statement. Your paper is truly an American through and through in the broadest sense of the term, it stands for all that goes to make the Negro an honest, independent, industrious and patriotic citizen. Your editorials which I have pursued with diligent care for years, teaches conservatism, patience, and deliberation along the questions that confronts us as a race, at the same time they are mingled with logic, force and fearlessness when once convinced that the particular issue is just. Continue to send me The American and may the dawn of twentieth century continue to crown you with you success. Yours for success,

CHAS. J. PARSONS,
Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The Colored American for 1900 will be a thing of value and of beauty. Our special offer of fifteen days at one dollar per year gives the poorest as well as the wisest and most economical an opportunity to get the best Negro journal published at the very small price of one dollar per year.